

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A system for implementing a policy in a network, said system comprising:

plurality of device-agnostic policy implementation, in which the device-agnostic policy implementations include non-security policy implementations;
plurality of network devices, at least two of said devices being dissimilar; and
plurality of device translators, each device translator corresponding to a respective one of said plurality of network devices and one of said plurality of device-agnostic policy implementations, at least two of said device translators being dissimilar, each of said plurality of device translators translating said device-agnostic policy implementation into corresponding device-specific implementations, wherein subsequent additions or maintenance of any of said plurality of network devices and any of said plurality of device-agnostic policy implementations are provided using device-agnostic files.

Claim 2 (original): The system according to claim 1, wherein said device-agnostic policy implementation is selected from the group consisting of firewall, Virtual Private Network, Java 2 Enterprise Edition Application, and custom operating system.

Claim 3 (original): The system according to claim 1, wherein said device-agnostic policy implementation implements a policy selected from the group consisting of access control, quality of service, backup, and availability.

Claim 4 (original): The system according to claim 1, wherein said device translators are represented by Extensible Stylesheet Language (XSL) code.

Claim 5 (original): The system according to claim 1, wherein said device-agnostic policy implementation is Extensible Markup Language (XML) code.

Claim 6 (original): The system according to claim 3, wherein said policy is represented by Extensible Markup Language (XML) code.

Claim 7 (original): The system according to claim 1, wherein the device-specific implementation is represented by Command Line Interface (CLI) code.

Claim 8 (original): The system according to claim 1, wherein the device-specific implementation is represented by Application Programming Interface (API) code.

Claim 9 (original): The system according to claim 1, wherein the device-specific implementation is represented by Java code.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A method comprising:
representing a vendor-agnostic configuration;
building a translator for a specific policy and a specific vendor, in which the computer network includes a plurality of policies and vendors, the policies including non-security policies;
repeating the building for each type of policy and vendor;
identifying a device;
loading said translator;
translating said vendor-agnostic configuration into vendor-specific configuration using said translator; ~~and~~
repeating the identifying, loading and translating for each type of policy and vendor; and
providing subsequent additions or maintenance of any of said plurality of policies and vendors using device-agnostic files.

Claim 11 (original): The method according to claim 10, wherein said vendor-agnostic configuration is represented by Extensible Markup Language (XML) code.

Claim 12 (original): The method according to claim 10, wherein said translator is represented by Extensible Stylesheet Language (XSL) code.

Claim 13 (original): The system according to claim 10, wherein said specific policy is selected from the group consisting of firewall, Virtual Private Network, Java 2 Enterprise Edition Application, and custom operating system.

Claim 14 (original): The system according to claim 10, wherein said specific policy is selected from the group consisting of access control, quality of service, backup, and availability.

Claim 15 (original): The system according to claim 10, wherein the vendor-specific configuration is represented by Command Line Interface (CLI) code.

Claim 16 (original): The system according to claim 10, wherein the vendor-specific configuration is represented by Application Programming Interface (API) code.

Claim 17 (original): The system according to claim 10, wherein the vendor-specific configuration is represented by Java code.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A computer readable medium containing instructions for implementing a policy in a computer network, said instructions comprising:

representing a vendor-agnostic configuration;

building a translator for a specific policy and a specific vendor, in which the computer network includes a plurality of policies and vendors, the policies including non-security policies;

repeating the building for each type of policy and vendor;

identifying a device;

loading said translator;

translating said vendor-agnostic configuration into vendor-specific configuration using said translator; ~~and~~

repeating the identifying, loading and translating for each type of policy and vendor; and

providing subsequent additions or maintenance of any of said plurality of policies and vendors using device-agnostic files.